REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the above amendment the claims will be 1, 4 to 8 and 10 to 19 with claims 15 to 18 being withdrawn from consideration. In this regard, the Official Action does not acknowledge claims 15 to 18 are withdrawn from consideration and such acknowledgment is respectfully requested.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication that claims 9, 14 and 19 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, the features of claim 9 have been incorporated in claim 1 and the remainder of the claims ultimately depend on claim 1.

Accordingly, all of claims 4 to 8, 10 to 14 and 19 are allowable.

Moreover, since all of the withdrawn claims are directed to methods of using allowable claim1, rejoinder of the withdrawn claims, i.e. 15 to 18, is respectfully requested.

No further issues remaining, allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any comments or proposals for expediting prosecution, please contact undersigned at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

Tadashi WATANABE et al.

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

By: Matthew M. Jacob

Registration No. 25,154

Attorney for Applicants

MJ/kes Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 September 7, 2004